

# Benefits of WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

**In Washington County** 







#### **Special Note:**

This analysis is a preliminary assessment of Washington County's economy, water supply-demand dynamics and the area's capital infrastructure funding capacity; this is subject to further review and revision.



#### The Importance of Water Infrastructure Investments

A Strong & Growth **Current Water New Supply** Resulting is Critical **Economic Expanding** Generates Supply is Insufficient to **Economy for Demand for Returns &** Going the Future **Forward** Water **Meet Demand Opportunity** 





## The Importance of Water Infrastructure Investments

**Current Water New Supply** A Strong & Growth Resulting **Expanding** is Critical Generates Supply is **Economic** Demand for Insufficient to **Economy for** Returns & Going the Future **Forward** Water **Meet Demand Opportunity** 





#### SAFE, STABLE AND SUFFICIENT WATER RESOURCES

are vital to protecting Washington County's current and future economy



**New Residents** 

by 2060

165,600 RESIDENTS

Fastest Growing County in Utah

65,500 HOUSEHOLDS

74 LIVABILITY SCORE Above State & National Average

**7<sup>TH</sup> BEST PLACE**TO RAISE A FAMILY

AMONG THE FASTEST-GROWING SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN UTAH

36<sup>TH</sup> HIGHEST

APPRECIATION
in the Nation

BUILDING
PERMITS UP 27%
in Single Family Home Construction

COST OF 08% of the National Average

54,000 Employees

3.8%

JOB GROWTH

3.2% Unemployment

Rate

Among the LOWEST in the Nation



Second Fastest Employment Growth
IN LEISURE & HOSPITALITY
in Utah (+22% from '12 to '16)

LEISURE & HOSPITALITY EMPLOYMENT GROWTH IN UTAH (+28%) Post-Recession ('10 to '14)

16.5% Of all jobs last year were sourced to LEISURE & HOSPITALITY



EXPANDING
HIGHER
EDUCATION &
HEALTHCARE
SECTORS

**24**<sup>TH</sup>

BUSINESS & CAREERS

5,400 PRIVATE BUSINESSES

\$1.9B in Wages



\$5.1B



\$9,3 M In sales tax collections last year



\$12.6 B In property value last year



↑ ⊅∠⊥. / | ∨ | In property tax collections last year

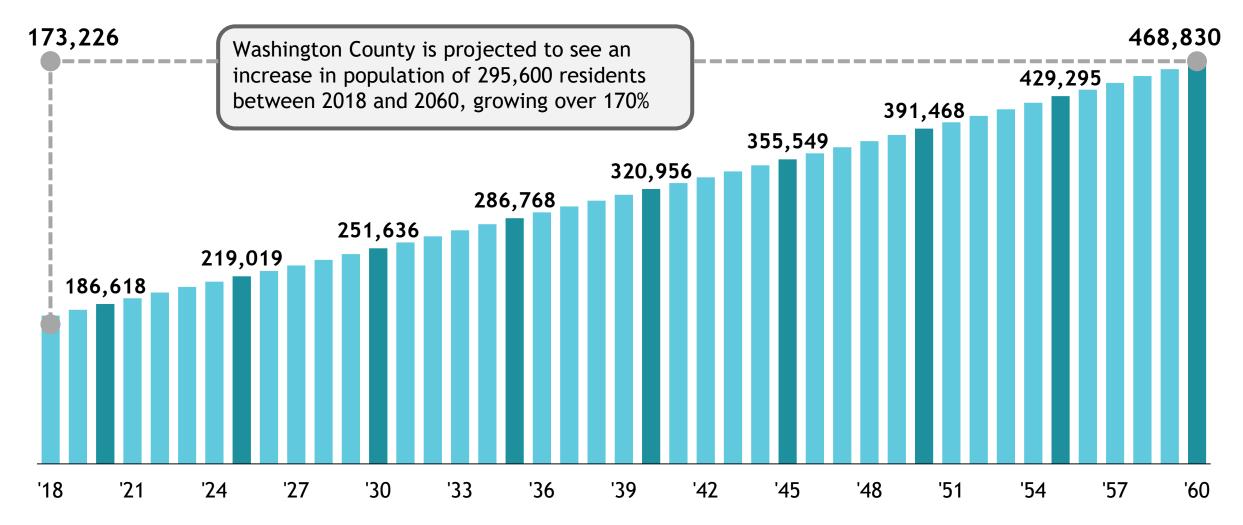


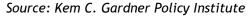
\$3.8 B
In personal income tax
collections last year





#### Growth prospects are expected to continue

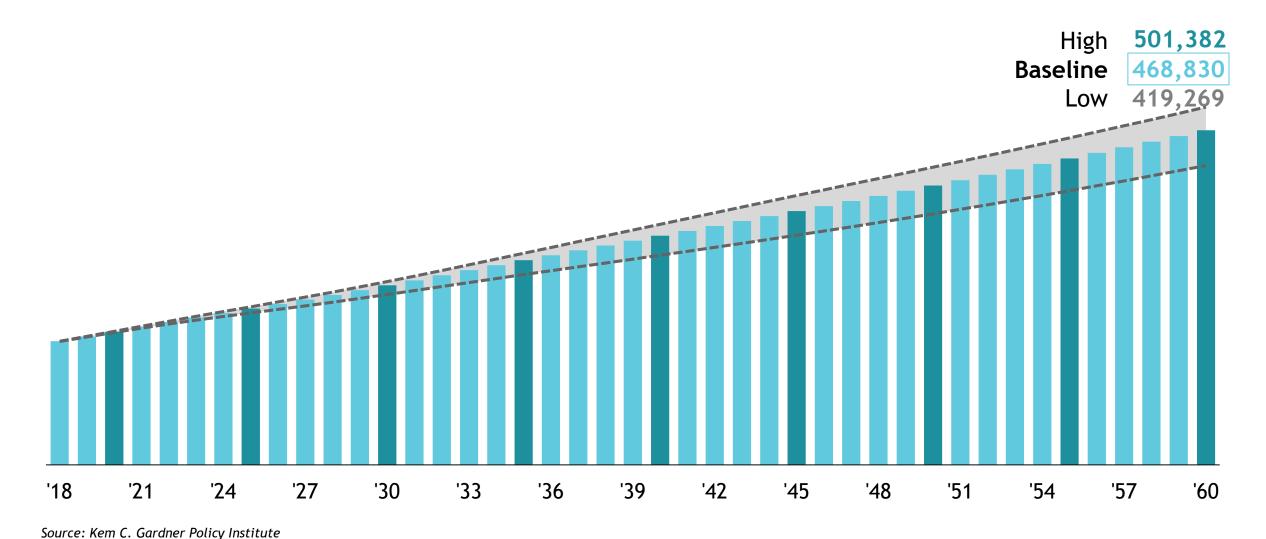








## There are a range of possibilities, but all point north



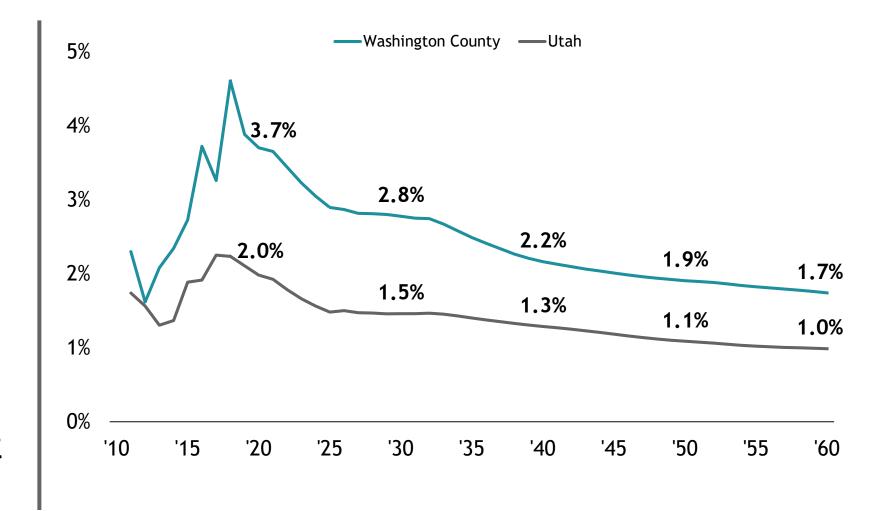




#### Washington County is uniquely positioned

Washington County's population growth is expected to outpace statewide growth through 2060.

In fact, Washington County is projected to be the state's fastest growing county over the next 40 years.







Washington County has enjoyed the benefits of a strong economy and above-average growth; these trends are expected to continue.



## The Importance of Water Infrastructure Investments

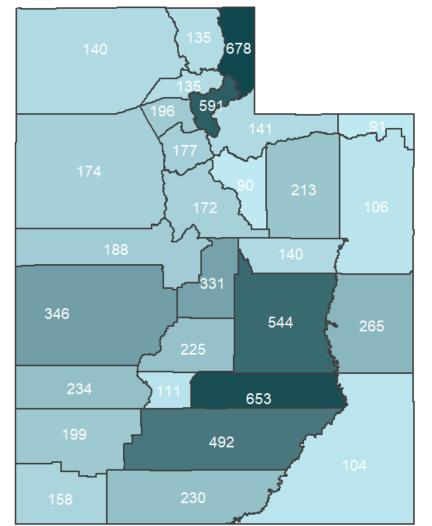
Current Water A Strong & Growth **New Supply** Resulting is Critical **Expanding** Generates Supply is **Economic** Insufficient to **Economy for Demand for** Going Returns & the Future Water **Meet Demand Forward Opportunity** 





#### Comparing local residential demand within Utah

In terms of domestic public supply, Washington County reported the fourth lowest per capita per day usage in the state of Utah despite being located in the most arid and hot region of the state according to the latest USGS report.

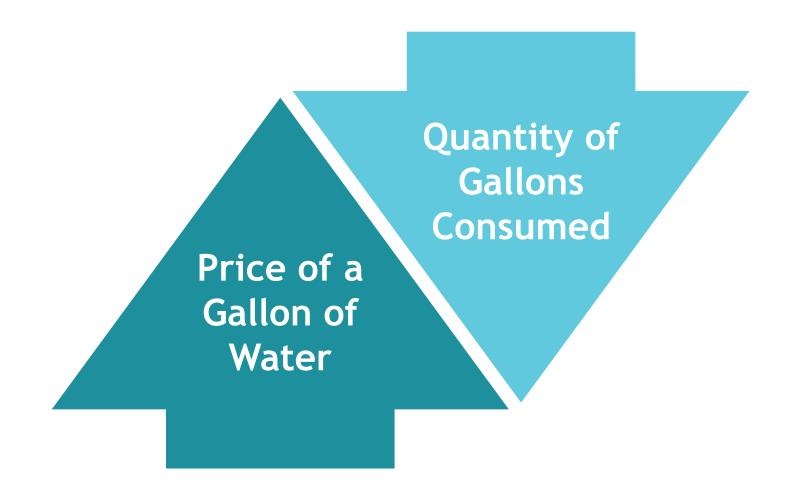


GPCD

Source: USGS: Estimated Use of Water in the United States County-Level Data for 2015 | Domestic public supply includes indoor and outdoor use











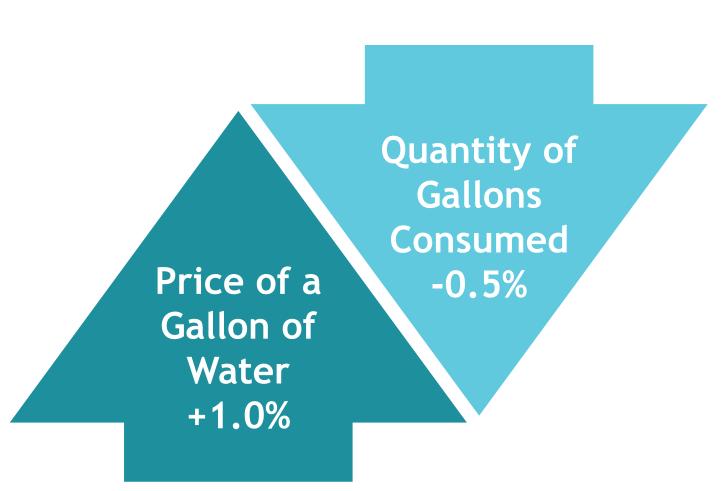
Price elasticity of demand is an economic concept that shows the relationship between the price of a good and the quantity demanded of that good.

Price of a

As the relative price of water increases, the amount of water consumed decreases.







More specifically, price elasticity of demand is the percentage change in quantity demanded of a good divided by a 1% change in price of a good

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\Delta \% Q_d}{\Delta \% P}$$

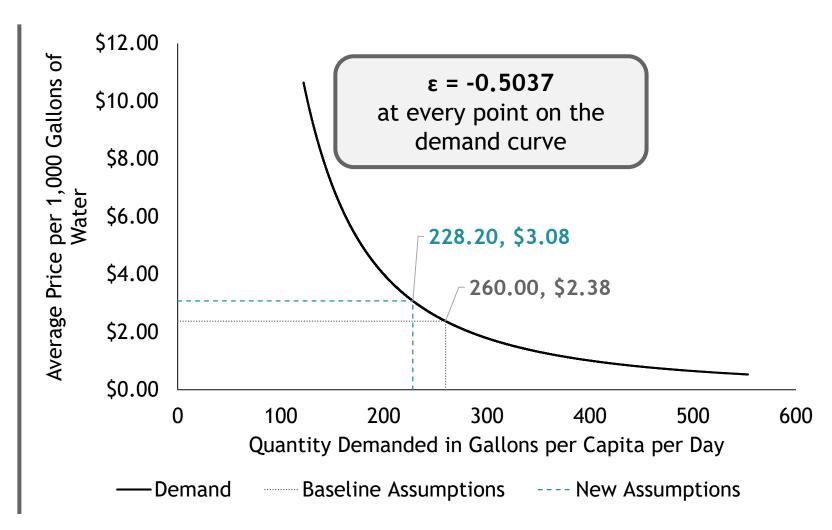
For example, when the price of water rises 1% and the quantity demanded falls by 0.5%, the price elasticity of demand is -0.5 at that combination of quantity and price





#### **Key Considerations**

- All other factors held constant
- Inflation-adjusted prices
- Elasticity is held constant across a range of values, or across the demand curve
- Average retail price of water is used; consumers react to the average price due to complicated rate structures
- Other factors impact price elasticity







With positive population growth forecasts expected to far outpace the impact of conservation measures and reduced consumption associated with potential water rate increases, incremental demand for water is inevitable.



# The Importance of Water Infrastructure Investments

A Strong & Growth **Current Water New Supply** Resulting is Critical **Expanding** Generates Supply is **Economic Insufficient to Economy for Demand for** Going Returns & the Future Water **Meet Demand Forward Opportunity** 





#### Future demand vs. existing supply



Increase in population
between 2018 and 2060
according to the
Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute

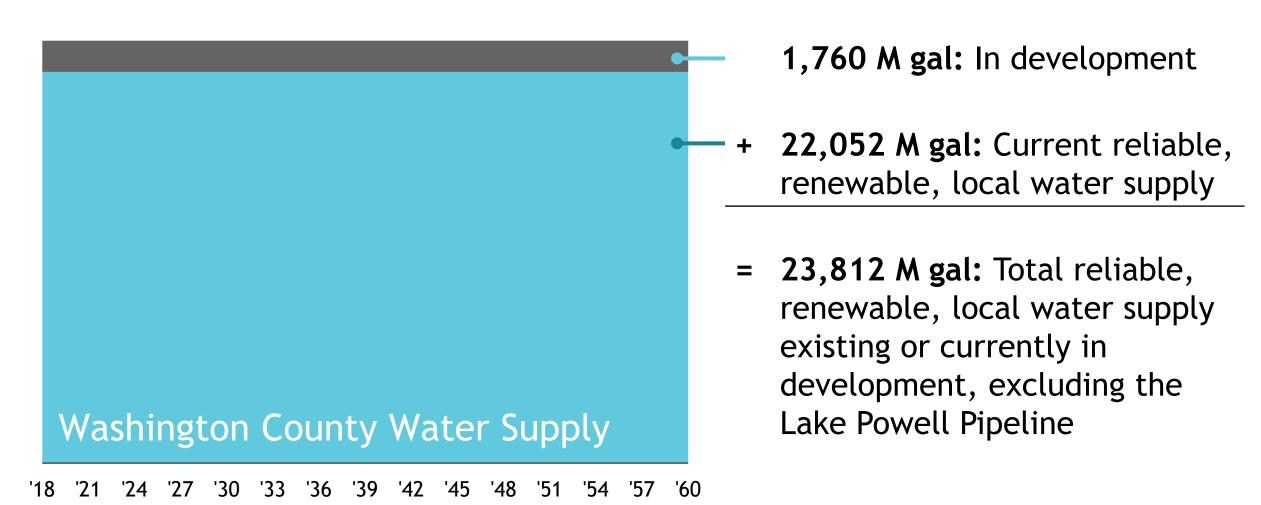


Increase in reliable, renewable water sources being developed by WCWCD through 2020 (excluding major additions like the Lake Powell Pipeline)





#### Current water supply levels are known



Source: 2017 Impact Fee Facilities Plan



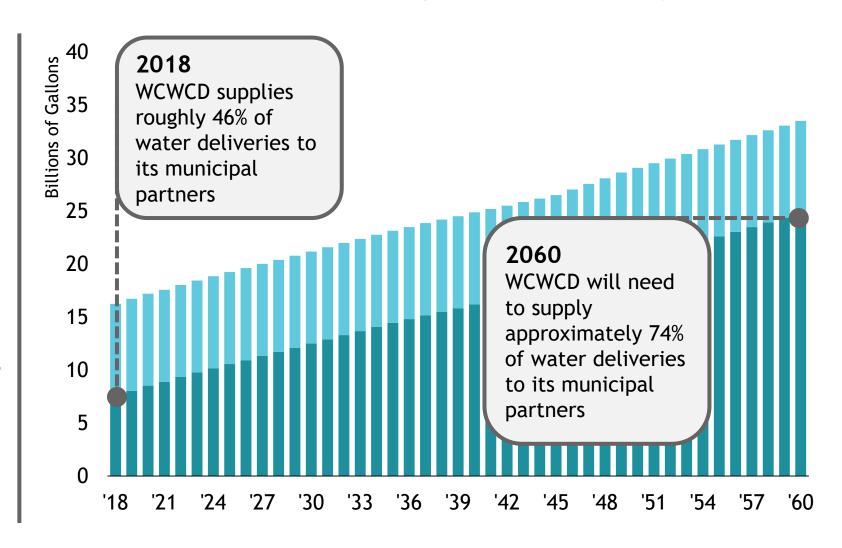


#### Who provides water within Washington County?

#### **Water Sources**

Water rate increases by the WCWCD are only imposed on water provided by WCWCD.

The proportion of water supplied by the WCWCD partially determines how much an increase in wholesale rates affects the average retail price of water.









## The Importance of Water Infrastructure Investments

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#### Why are additional water resources important?

- + To ensure a safe, stable and sufficient supply of water for existing Washington County residents
- + To keep pace with the expected pace of population and economic growth
- + To protect the region against water resource erosion issues from drought, rising temperatures and other environmental conditions
- + To avoid higher cost alternatives
- + To diversify the region's water resources
- + To use Utah's Colorado River allocation





#### Planned water resources on the horizon

Project Name	Estimated Project Year	Reliable Yield (Millions of Gallons per Year)
Ash Creek	2019	925
Cottam Wells	2019	212
Diamond Valley Well	2019	130
Lake Powell Pipeline	2024	26,801
Pintura Well	2019	212
Quail Creek WTP - Expansion	2020	-
Quail Creek WTP - Ozone Addition	2019	-
Sand Hollow Arsenic WTP	2018	-
Sand Hollow Regional Pipeline	2018	-
Sand Hollow Wells	2019	978
Sand Hollow WTP	2023	-
Sullivan Wells	2019	244
Total		29,502

Source: 2017 Impact Fee Facilities Plan





#### The LPP is a key component of the solution



#### Pipeline Alignment

The proposed alignment for the LPP starts in Lake Powell, mostly follows the Navajo-McCullough Transmission Line south of the Kaibab-Paiute Indian Reservation and terminates in the Sand Hollow Reservoir.

140

Estimated
Miles of
Buried Pipe

5

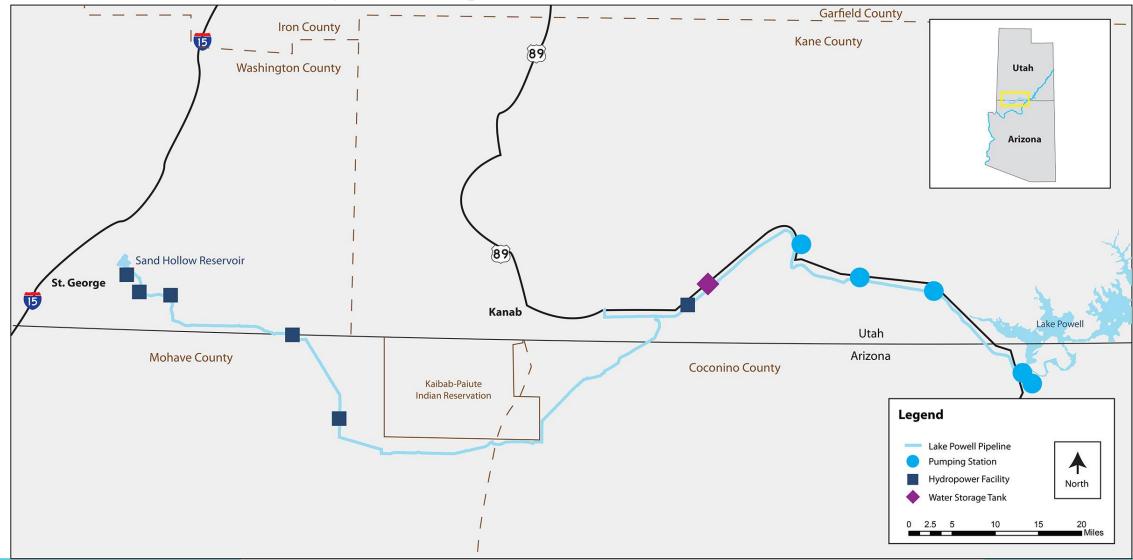
Pump Stations 6

Hydroelectric Generation Facilities



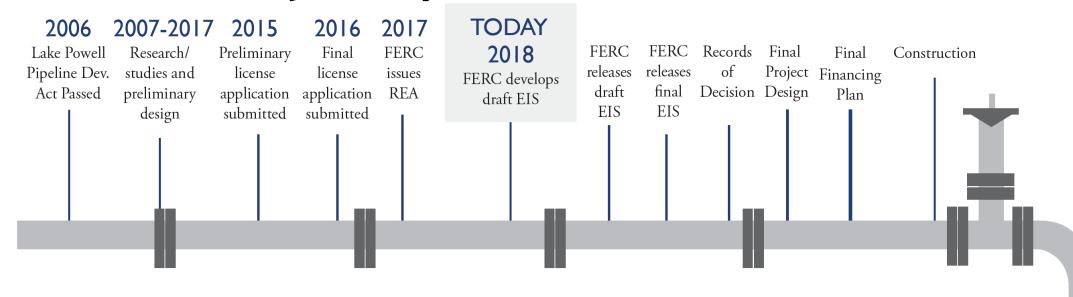


## The LPP is a key component of the solution



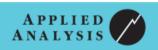


#### The LPP is a key component of the solution

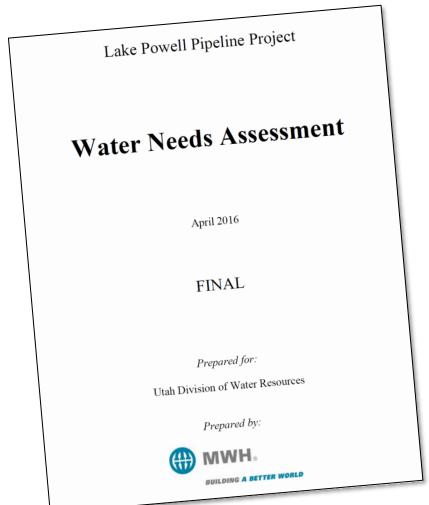


The Lake Powell Pipeline project is currently under review by the Federal Energy Regulatory Committee, and is expected to be completed by approximately 2030.





# The importance and practicality of the LPP



"the proposed [Lake Powell Pipeline] project would import higher quality water much more economically and would avoid the environmental impacts associated with [reverse osmosis] treatment."

Source: Lake Powell Pipeline Project Water Needs Assessment, April 2016, MHW ((at section 2.7) and (at section 4.2.2))

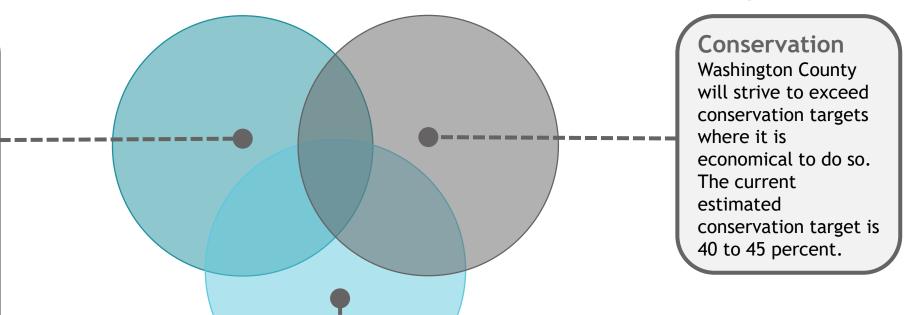




## Limited alternatives to address the challenge

# Planning and Innovation

The future is inherently uncertain. Thoughtful planning in development codes and economic development initiatives will help Washington County prepare for whatever the future holds. The region must be open to innovation of increasing the efficiency of limited resources like water.



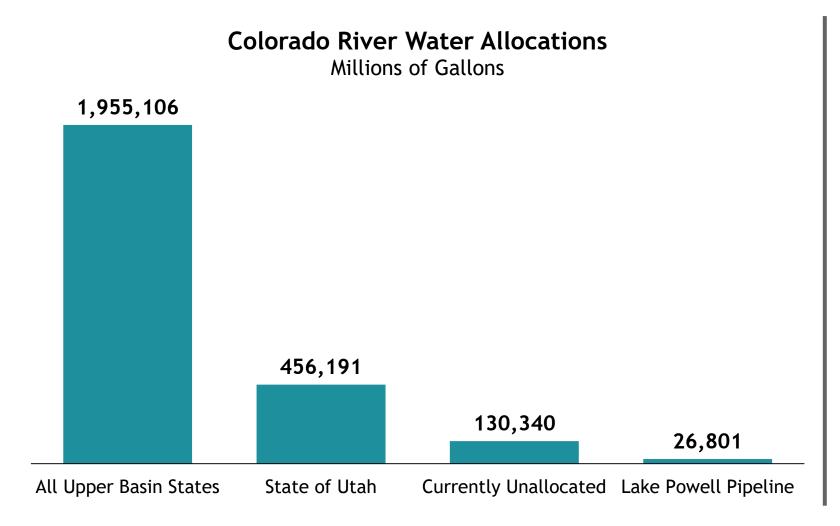
#### **Water Resource Development**

The Lake Powell Pipeline and other resource development projects will add over 100,000 acre feet of new water resources, diversifying the region's water portfolio and securing Utah's Colorado River Water Rights.





#### Putting the LPP into perspective



The Lake Powell
Pipeline would utilize
about 6% of Utah's
Colorado River annual
reliable supply, 130
billion gallons of
which is currently
unused.







The next question must focus on how can water infrastructure improvements be addressed in a fiscally responsible manner?

#### Funding alternatives considered

There are a range of potential scenarios to funding water infrastructure

Impact Fees	Water Rates	Property Taxes
0%	50%	50%
25%	35%	40%
50%	25%	25%
<b>75</b> %	15%	10%
100%	0%	0%





#### Funding alternatives considered

There are a range of potential scenarios to funding water infrastructure

Impact Fees 75%

Water Rates 15%

Property Taxes 10%



**Special Note:** Total Water Use ≠ Revenue-Generating Deliveries

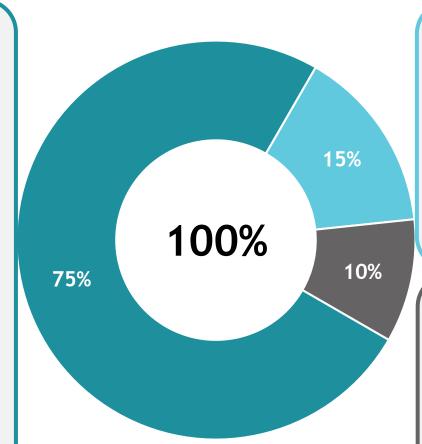




#### Funding water infrastructure projects

WCWCD funds its infrastructure projects, including acquisitions of Lake Powell Pipeline water, using impact fees, water rates, and property taxes.

#### Impact Fee Impact fees continue increasing \$1,000 annually until the fee revenue will generate 75 percent of the cost of district capital projects. From that point forward, impact fees would be adjusted annually by the cost of inflation, currently estimated at 2.4 percent.



#### **Water Rate**

Increase wholesale water rates by \$0.10 per 1,000 gallons each year to \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons. The full \$3.00 rate increase would be realized in 2045.

#### **Property Tax**

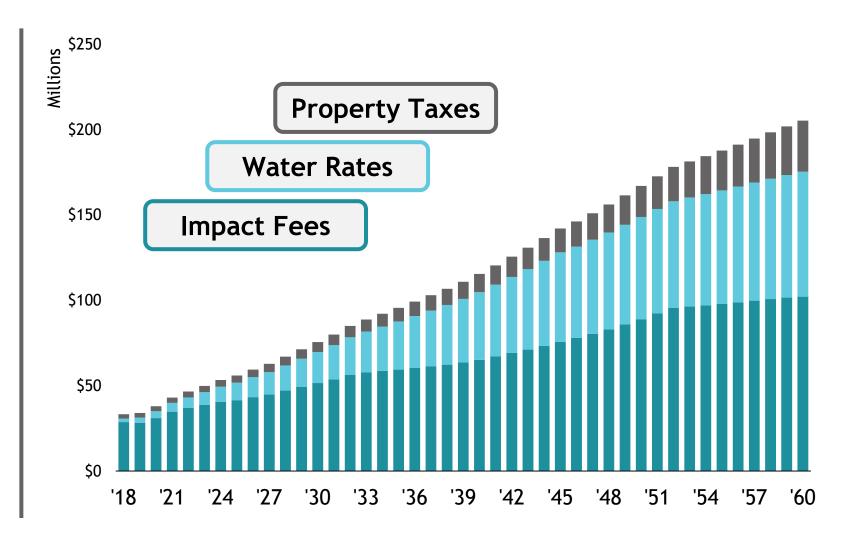
Phase-in WCWCD tax rate of 0.000278 over a 10-year period to bring the rate to 0.001 (est. 2027).





#### Funding capacity for water infrastructure projects

WCWCD funds its infrastructure projects, including acquisitions of Lake Powell Pipeline water, using impact fees, water rates, and property taxes.



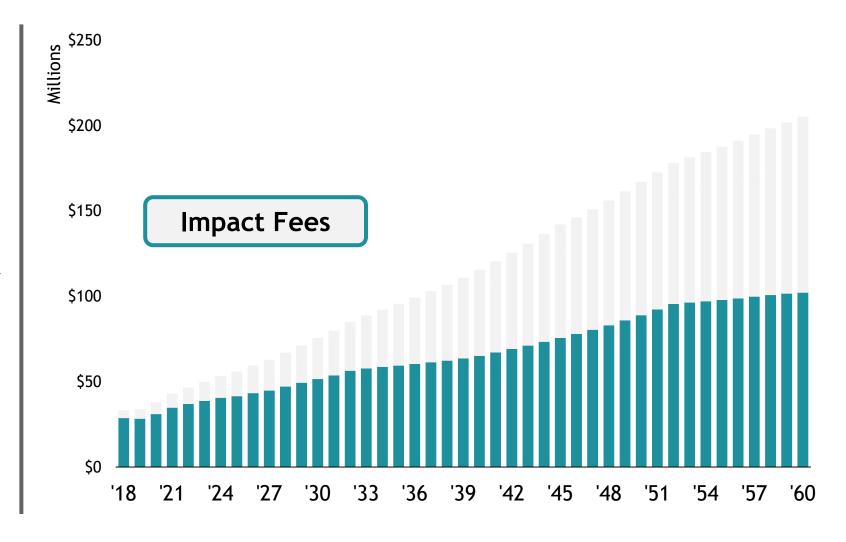




## Funding capacity for water infrastructure projects

\$2.9 B

Impact fees have the capacity to fund almost \$2.9 billion between today and 2060



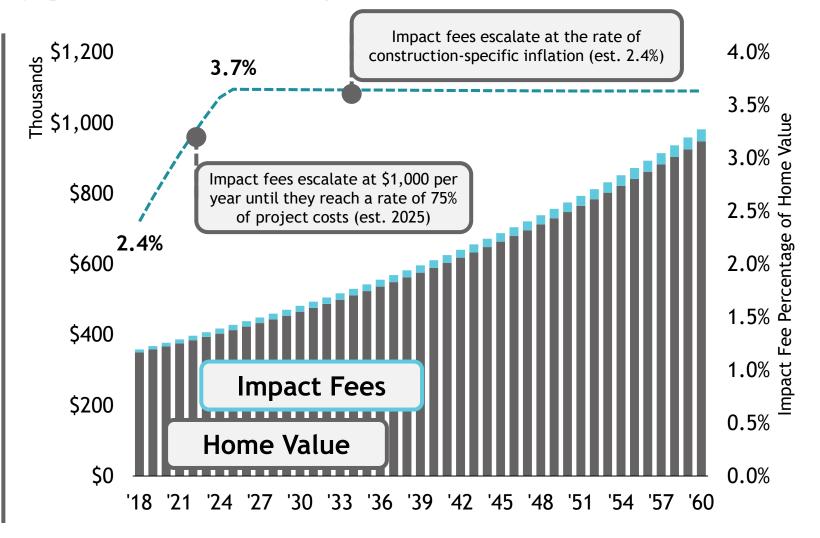




#### Impact fees on a typical housing unit

#### **Impact Fees**

Current WCWCD impact fees are approximately 2.4% of the price of a new home in Washington County. This ratio will peak in in 2025 at 3.7% of the home value **newly constructed homes**.







3.62%

Average impact fee to new home price ratio\*

\$21,744 Average Impact Fee x 132,000 Additional ERU \$2.9 B Total Capacity

\$601,200 Average New Home ÷ \$21,744 Average Impact Fee

3.62% Fee to Home Value

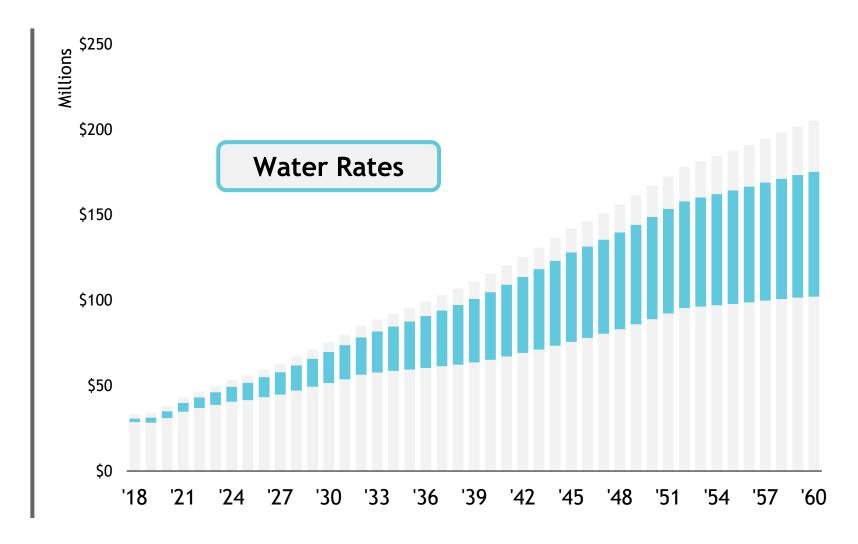
Assumes \$350,000 new home price today and 2.4% inflation rate, based on the PPI-Construction materials index





\$1.6 B

The WCWCD wholesale rate capital fund contributions have the capacity to fund almost \$1.6 billion between today and 2060

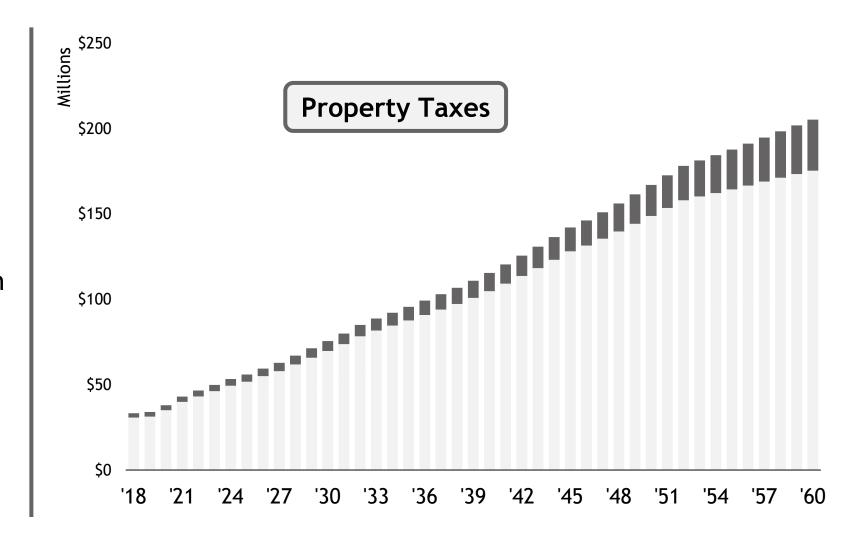






\$0.5 B

The WCWCD portion of property taxes in Washington County have the capacity to fund \$522 million between today and 2060

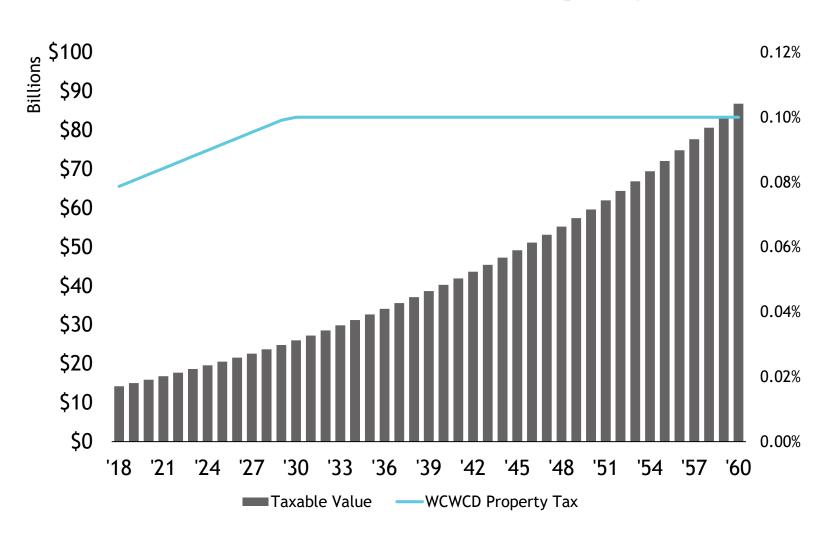






6.10x

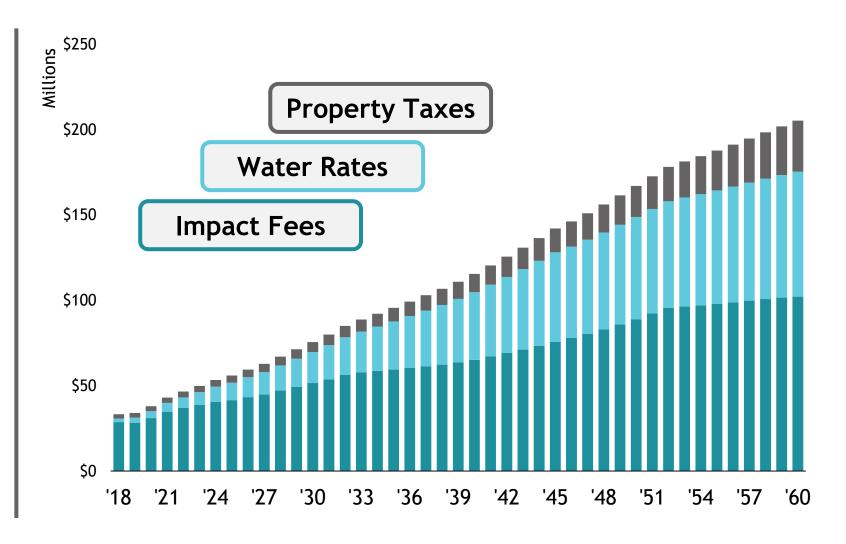
Taxable value increase from today through 2060





\$5.0 B

The total capacity of all three funding sources available would fund more than \$5 billion over the next 42 years







#### Funding water infrastructure projects







# Water rate impact: Wholesale vs. retail rates



Increase in the wholesale water rate per 1,000 gallons



\$0.071

Increase in retail rates due to two-part flat fee and progressive block rate structure



 $$0.071 \times 45\% = $0.032$ Increase in the average retail water rate

#### Water rate impact: Wholesale vs. retail rates

# Water Rate Structure

Water rates in Washington County (St. George City) are structured in increasing blocks with a flat fee charged for every period. This means that an increase in wholesale water rates will translate to a smaller increase in retail water rates.

Rate Stru	cture		Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Nace Sera	ctarc		Use (x 1,000)	18.28	17.50	23.77	33.09
`	Flat Fee (includes first 5,000 Gallons) \$24.72		Flat Fee	\$24.72	\$24.72	\$24.72	\$24.72
\$1.18	5,000 to	10,000		\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90
\$1.30	10,000 to	15,000		\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50
\$1.40	15,000 to	20,000		\$4.59	\$3.50	\$7.00	\$7.00
\$1.51	20,000 to	25,000		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.69	\$7.55
\$1.62	25,000 to	30,000		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.10
\$1.73	30,000 to	35,000		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.34
\$2.05	35,000 to	40,000		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$2.60	40,000 to	45,000		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			Top Tier	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total				\$41.71	\$40.62	\$49.81	\$65.11

St. George City water rates shown as an example





### What will be the cost for a typical household?

#### **Water Rates**

Retail water rates in Washington County currently average approximately \$2.38 per 1,000 gallons consumed. The WCWCD currently supplies approximately 45% of all water deliveries in Washington County.

Estimated Average Monthly Use						
	Persons	Persons in Household				
	1	2	3			
2017	7,908	15,817	23,725			
2020	7,693	15,385	23,078			
2030	7,020	14,041	21,061			
2040	6,462	12,924	19,386			
2050	6,193	12,385	18,578			
2060	5,961	11,923	17,884			





# What will be the cost for a typical household?

#### **Water Rates**

Retail water rates in Washington County currently average approximately \$2.38 per 1,000 gallons consumed. The WCWCD currently supplies approximately 45% of all water deliveries in Washington County.

	Estimated Monthly Water Bill							
		Rate per	Persons					
		1,000 gallons	1	2	3			
	2017	\$2.38	\$28.25	\$38.42	\$50.08			
.hly	2020	\$2.63	\$28.67	\$40.25	\$53.33			
ont r Bi	2030	\$3.80	\$29.75	\$46.25	\$64.67			
Total Monthly Water Bill	2040	\$5.46	\$30.42	\$51.92	\$75.75			
	2050	\$7.18	\$30.92	\$56.42	\$84.83			
	2060	\$8.76	\$30.92	\$58.50	\$89.58			
Incremental Monthly Water Bill	2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
	2020	\$0.25	\$0.42	\$1.83	\$3.25			
	2030	\$1.42	\$1.50	\$7.83	\$14.59			
	2040	\$3.08	\$2.17	\$13.50	\$25.67			
	2050	\$4.80	\$2.67	\$18.00	\$34.75			
¥	2060	\$6.38	\$2.67	\$20.08	\$39.50			





### Property tax impact: Existing tax liability

#### **Total Property Tax Liability**

		Household Value (Primary Household)					
		\$150K	\$250K	\$350K	\$500K	\$750K	\$1M
	2017	\$851	\$1,419	\$1,987	\$2,838	\$4,257	\$5,676
Annual Property Tax Liability	2020	\$904	\$1,506	\$2,108	\$3,012	\$4,518	\$6,023
	2030	\$1,101	\$1,836	\$2,570	\$3,671	\$5,507	\$7,343
	2040	\$1,343	\$2,238	\$3,133	\$4,475	\$6,713	\$8,950
	2050	\$1,637	\$2,728	\$3,819	\$5,455	\$8,183	\$10,911
	2060	\$1,995	\$3,325	\$4,655	\$6,650	\$9,975	\$13,300

#### **Property Taxes**

Property taxes in Washington County range from 0.8915% to 1.3252%. WCWCD will phase in its remaining 0.0278% property tax rate through 2026, bringing its total rate to 0.1%.





#### What will be the cost for a typical household?

		Household Value (Primary Household)					
		\$150K	\$250K	\$350K	\$500K	\$750K	\$1M
	2017	\$58	\$72	\$107	\$130	\$159	\$193
Total WCWCD Property Taxes	2020	\$96	\$120	\$178	\$217	\$264	\$322
	2030	\$135	\$168	\$249	\$304	\$370	\$451
	2040	\$193	\$240	\$356	\$434	\$529	\$644
	2050	\$289	\$361	\$534	\$650	\$793	\$967
	2060	\$385	\$481	\$711	\$867	\$1,057	\$1,289
Incremental Property Taxes	2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2020	\$38	\$48	\$71	\$87	\$105	\$129
	2030	\$77	\$96	\$142	\$174	\$211	\$258
	2040	\$135	\$168	\$249	\$304	\$370	\$451
	2050	\$231	\$289	\$427	\$520	\$634	\$774
	2060	\$327	\$409	\$604	\$737	\$898	\$1,096

#### **Property Taxes**

Property taxes in Washington County range from 0.8915% to 1.3252%. WCWCD will phase in its remaining 0.03% property tax rate through 2026, bringing its total rate to 0.1%.





# Property tax allocations in Washington County

Washington County, \$0.000999

St. George City, \$0.001432

Washington County School District, \$0.006706



Multicounty
Assessment &
Collection Levy,
\$0.000010

Southwest Mosquito
Abatement &
Control District,
\$0.000040

County Assessment & Collection Levy, \$0.000460

Washington County Water Conservancy District, \$0.000700 Combined St.
George
Property Tax
Rate:

\$0.010347







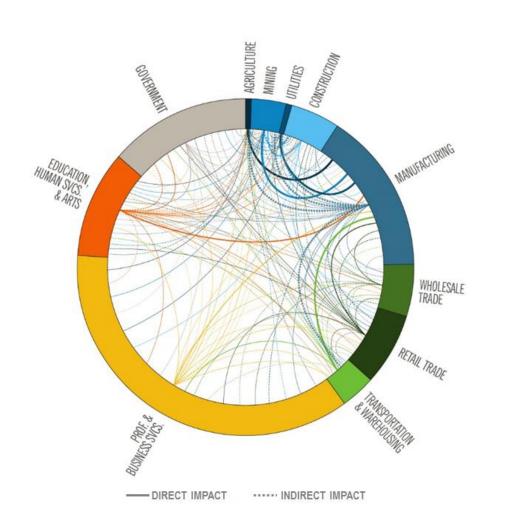
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#### Quantifying the economic return on investment



Utah's economy is highly integrated and interconnected

Absent additional water resources, instability will change the growth pattern in Southern Utah limiting the region's economic potential





#### One measure of economic return on investment

	Washington County Core Metrics (2016)	Core Metrics per Acre Foot Demanded (20,652 M gal)	Additional Economic Potential with Current Projects (26,801 M gal) [4]
Population [1]	160,371	2.53	208,115
Households [1]	58,062	0.92	75,348
Employment [2]	60,188	0.95	78,107
Businesses [2]	5,371	0.08	6,970
Personal Income [3]	\$5.3 B	\$83,623	\$6.9 B
Wages & Salaries [2]	\$2.1 B	\$33,133	\$2.7 B
Gross Regional Product [3]	\$5.1 B	\$80,467	\$6.6 B

<sup>[1]</sup> Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute



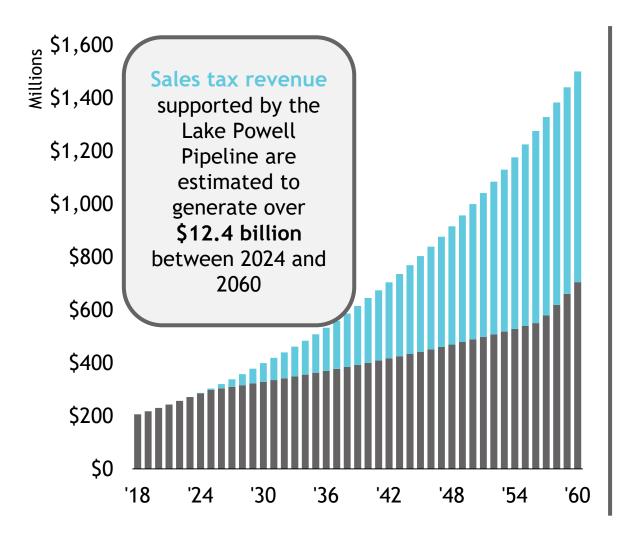


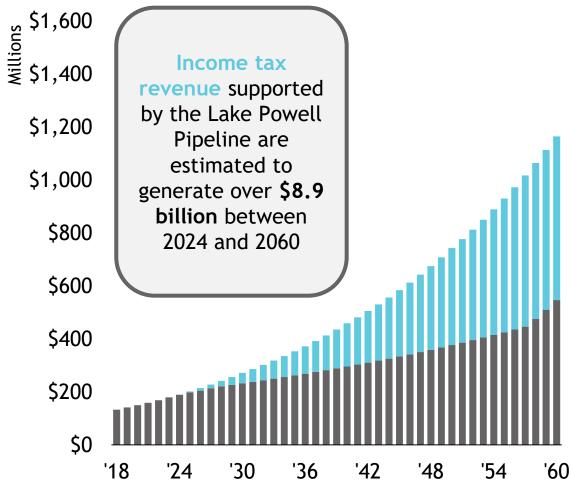
<sup>[2]</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages; Washington County, Utah

<sup>[3]</sup> U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Data: Washington County, Utah or St. George MSA

<sup>[4]</sup> Baseline estimates. Notes that the effects of conservation, advancements in construction technology and economic diversification have the potential to significantly increase the simple calculations provided.

#### Quantifying the fiscal implications









#### Quantifying the state's benefit from the investment

\$21.4 Billion

\$21.4 billion generated in incremental sales tax revenue and income tax payments between 2024 and 2060





#### Sizing up Washington County's infrastructure cost

\$815 B WC Gross Product

Washington County's Gross Domestic Product (a measure of total economic activity) is currently \$5.1 billion; through 2060 it is projected to be \$815 billion \$32 B WC Pers. Income

Taxable personal income in Washington County is just under \$3 billion today and is projected to exceed \$32 billion in 2060

\$33 B Utah Water Need

Total water infrastructure needs throughout the state of Utah are estimated to be \$32.7 billion; nationally that figure exceeds \$1 trillion

\$19 B Utah Assets

The state of Utah's 2017
Comprehensive Annual Financial
Report reflected \$18.7 billion of
capital assets held on the state's
books









# Benefits of WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

**In Washington County** 



